

Message Text

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64

ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

SWF-02 DRC-01 (ISO) W
----- 056750

R 241826Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 586

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 2448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, BE

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6

REFS: A. STATE 83029; B. BRUSSELS 2060

1. DURING MY CALL ON DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DAVIGNON APRIL 24, I RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS. I REMINDED HIM OF THE URGENCY AND IMPORTANCE OF SETTLING THIS MATTER AND NOTED THAT THE BELGIAN DUMPERS AND THE ITALIAN CITRUS SEEMED TO BE THE TWO STICKY ITEMS THAT WERE HOLDING UP THE WHOLE PACKAGE. I SAID THAT AN ACT OF POLITICAL WILL WAS REQUIRED TO REACH A SOLUTION AND THAT TWO
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RELATIVELY SMALL ITEMS SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO

CAUSE A BREAKDOWN IN NEGOTIATIONS WHICH COULD SERIOUSLY IMPEDE THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PASSAGE OF THE TRADE REFORM ACT. I SAID I HOPED THAT THE EC COMMISSION WOULD TAKE A MORE FORCEFUL ROLE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND EXERT MORE LEADERSHIP.

2. DAVIGNON AGREED THAT THE ARTICLE XXIV:6 PROBLEM NEEDED SOLVING PROMPTLY. HE NOTED THAT THE PERMREPS WERE MEETING TOMORROW, APRIL 25, AND SAID HE WOULD QTE DO WHAT HE COULD UNQTE TO SEE THAT A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION WAS FOUND. HE ALSO AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL FOR THE COMMISSION TO TAKE A STRONGER INITIATIVE IN THIS MATTER.

3. COMMENT: DAVIGNON'S EXPRESSION OF WILLINGNESS TO SEE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE ARTICLE XXIV:6 MATTER IS SOMEWHAT MORE FORTHCOMING THAN HIS PREVIOUS STATEMENT (REF B). IT CONFORMS, HOWEVER, WITH THYSAERT'S (FOREIGN MINISTER'S CABINET) RESPONSE TO DCM'S DEMARCHE OF APRIL 13. THYSAERT HAD IMPLIED THAT FOREIGN AFFAIRS WOULD EXERT ITS INFLUENCE WITH THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO OBTAIN FURTHER MOVEMENT ON THE DUMPERS. I BELIEVE THAT THE BELGIANS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS ISSUE RESOLVED AND AGREE THAT THEY WOULD NOT WANT TO BE ISOLATED AS THE OBSTACLE TO A PACKAGE ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. STRAUSS-KAHN

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